



2016 JUN 24 AM 8:00

June 20, 2016

Louisiana Board of Ethics
PO Box 4368
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

RE: Request for Exception

Gentlemen,

This letter is to request a written opinion concerning Rule 1113, Prohibited Contractual Arrangement; Exceptions; Reports.

I serve on the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC), appointed by Governor Jindal on April 8, 2010, reappointed in 2013, and my current appointment expires on December 31, 2016. We are a fifteen-man board made up of contractors from all parts of the state representing industrial, commercial, residential, highway, oil and gas, electrical, and mechanical contractors and subcontractors. We are self-funded and self-regulating our own industry to protect the health and welfare of Louisiana's citizens. We receive no funds from the State of Louisiana.

The LSLBC is undertaking, along with the Louisiana Associated General Contractors (LAGC) and Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. (ABC), a new "Construction Industry Building" in downtown Baton Rouge. The project funding will be by the LSLBC. The property is owned by the LAGC. The building, when completed, will bring together public and private organizations under one roof. The bidding process will adhere to the current public bid law. The bids will be opened in public by the Architect of Record and awarded to the low bidder as long as that company has followed public bid laws and specifications. The architect has the sole responsibility to supervise and manage the construction of the building, not the licensing board. I, nor any other bidding contractor, have had influence in the selection of the architect nor will anyone steer the design of the building, including the general and technical specifications.

As a qualified commercial general contractor in Baton Rouge, a member of the LAGC, and a member of the LSLBC, I am asking for an exception so that Stuart & Company General Contractors, LLC, and any other board members' company, if qualified, be permitted to bid this project.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Stuart', written over a horizontal line.

Christopher N. Stuart

Founder & CEO

CNS/ssj

Enclosures (3)